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## The Biblical Jubilee And The Struggle For Life Outline

F. Ross Kinsler

Gloria Kinsler

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**THE BIBLICAL JUBILEE AND THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE**  
**An invitation to personal, ecclesial, and social transformation**

**CHAPTER 1: THE JUBILEE CHALLENGE -- FULL LIFE FOR ALL GOD'S PEOPLE**

**A. Today's World**

Culture, Hegemony, and Ideology (G. West)

1. The Champagne Glass Analogy
2. Globalization of the "Free Market"  
Corporate-Led Economic Globalization (D. Korten)
3. Spiritual Alienation, Insolidarity, and Religious Proliferation  
NAFTA and FTAA

**B. Biblical Faith**

God, Social Values, and Economics (T. Braun)

1. The Exodus Paradigm and the Logic of Liberation
2. The Jubilee Vision -- The Seventh Day, the Seventh Year, the Fiftieth Year
3. Jesus and the Jubilee

**C. Responsible Discipleship**

Theology and Economy (S. McFague)

1. Personal Transformation
2. Ecclesial Transformation
3. Social Transformation

**CHAPTER 2: THE PROMISED LAND -- AN ALTERNATIVE SOCIAL POSSIBILITY**

**A. Today's World**

What the World Wants--And How to Pay for It

1. A Mayan Cosmogony
2. The Sandinista Experience
3. The Earth Charter

**B. Biblical Faith**

1. The Land as Gift, Temptation, Task, and Threat
2. The Tribes of Yahweh
3. Sabbath Ecology
4. Sabbath Economics

### C. Responsible Discipleship

#### The Hermeneutical-Pedagogical-Pastoral Circle

1. Simple Lifestyle -- The Logic of Enough
2. Covenanting for Life--The Shakertown Pledge
3. Economics as if People Mattered

## **CHAPTER 3: ABUSE OF THE LAND, LABOR, LIFE ITSELF**

### A. Today's World

#### Misconceptions about Foreign Aid (NCR)

1. Economic and Ecological Suicide
2. Bretton Woods -- Foundations of our World Economy
3. The Commodification of Land, Labor, and Life Itself

### B. Biblical Faith

1. The Monarchy and the Logic of Centralization (1 Sam. 8:7-18)
2. Prophetic Denunciation of Religion without Justice (Amos)
3. Destruction and Exile, Judgment and Rebirth of Hope (Jeremiah)

### C. Responsible Discipleship

#### Contextual Hermeneutics

1. A Call for Repentance
2. On the Way: From Kairos to Jubilee
3. The Clamor for Land

## **CHAPTER 4: SABBATH ECONOMICS, JUBILEE SPIRITUALITY, LIBERTY FOR ALL**

### A. Today's World

#### How Do We Relate Spirituality and Economics?

1. Emerging Economic Alternatives
2. Toward a Vision of an Economy of Life
3. Overcoming the Great Divorce

### B. Biblical Faith

1. Exile and Return -- The Renewed Search for an Alternative Social Possibility
2. The Deuteronomic and Priestly Traditions -- The Sabbath Year and the Jubilee
3. The Isaiah Traditions (Is. 5:1-4, 7-9, 42:1-9, 58:1-12, 65:17-25)
4. Royal Decrees (Ps. 72:1-4, 146:5-10)  
Were the Sabbath-Jubilee Mandates Ever Fulfilled? (M. Hudson)

**C. Responsible Discipleship**

1. The Stewardship of our Lives
2. The Stewardship of God's Household
3. The Stewardship of Creation  
Jubilee and Human Rights

**CHAPTER 5: JESUS' PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S REIGN AS JUBILEE**

**A. Today's World**

How Do We Understand the Evangel and Evangelization?

1. Socio-Economic Structures and Prejudices that Marginalize and Exclude
2. Political-Ideological Structures and Prejudices that Marginalize and Exclude
3. Religious-Spiritual Structures and Prejudices that Marginalize and Exclude

**B. Biblical Faith**

Power and Wealth in First Century Palestine

Jesus and the Domination System

1. Sabbath-Jubilee Texts in Mark (Mk. 2:1-12, 23-28, 3:1-6, 4:3-9, 10:17-31)
2. Sabbath-Jubilee Texts in Matthew (Mt. 5:3-10, 6:9-13, 6:19-24, 6:25-34)
3. Sabbath-Jubilee Texts in Luke (Lk. 4:14-30/Mt./Mk., 7:18-23)  
God and Mammon

**C. Responsible Discipleship**

Rereading the Bible from the Periphery

1. Encountering the Holy among the Most Vulnerable (J. Sobrino)
2. Finding God's Word through Openness to Others
3. Discovering Our Own Humanity by Affirming the Full Humanity of Others

**CHAPTER 6: JESUS AND THE DOMINATION SYSTEM**

**A. Today's World**

1. 500 Years of Conquest (E. Galeano, T. Todorov, G. Girardi, L. Rivera Pagan)
2. 500 Years of Economic Oppression, Patriarchy, and Racism
3. 500 Years of Entitlement as Addiction  
Nunca Mas--Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, El Salvador, Guatemala

**B. Biblical Faith**

Good News to the Poor--Matthew, Mark, Luke

Sight to the Blind--Luke 4:16-20



1. Subversive Teaching and Action
  - Jesus and the tax collectors (Lk. 5:29-32, 19:1-10)
  - Jesus and the Pharisees (Lk. 7:36-50)
  - Jesus and the rich (Lk. 12:13-21, 16:19-31, R. Kruger)
  - Jesus and the Temple (Mk. 2:1-12, 11:15-19)
2. Creating Alternative Community
3. Confronting Structural Sin (W. Wink)

#### C. Responsible Discipleship

1. Possibilities for Personal Recovery
2. Possibilities for Ecclesial Renewal
3. Possibilities for Social Transformation--Letter from Guanare

### **CHAPTER 7: JUBILEE PRACTICES IN THE EARLY CHURCH**

#### A. Today's World

Global Village or Global Pillage (J. Brecher and T. Costello)

1. Free Market Economics – Is It Humane?
2. Free Market Ideology – Does It Have a Conscience?
3. Privatistic Spirituality – Is It Adequate?

#### B. Biblical Faith

1. Pentecost as Jubilee (Acts 2:44-47, 4:32-35)
2. The Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)
3. The Collection for the Christians in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 8:1-15)

#### C. Responsible Discipleship

Lessons for the Local Church

1. Borders – Walls or Bridges?
2. Churches – Privileged Ghettos or Servant Communities?
3. Globalization – Slavery or Liberation?

### **CHAPTER 8: CELEBRATING LIFE TOGETHER**

1. Recovering Times and Spaces to be Human – The Promised Land
2. Respecting and Renewing Creation – New Heavens and a New Earth
3. Overcoming Poverty and Wealth – Enough is Enough for All
4. Liberation from Debts, Slavery, Disease, and Sin
5. Discovering Others, Finding Ourselves
6. Going Home – Identity, Security, Peace
7. Working for Justice – Celebrating Life Together

## PRAYER OF A PEOPLE IN THE THROES OF MARTYRDOM

I close these pages with a prayer used by the Christian communities of Latin America. It is the prayer of a people living in the midst of struggle, persecution, and martyrdom, the prayer of those who are in solidarity with the cause of the poor.

Lord, may your Gospel be for me not a book,  
but Good News, lived and shared.  
May I not be embittered by oppression.  
May I speak more of hope than of calamities.  
May my denunciations be first subjected  
to discernment,  
in community,  
brought before you in profound prayer,  
and uttered without arrogance,  
not as an instrument of aggression,  
but neither with timidity and cowardice.  
May I never resign myself to the exploitation of the  
poor,  
in whatever form it may come.  
Help me to be subversive  
of any unjust order.  
Help me to be free,  
and to struggle for the freedom of the oppressed.  
May I never become accustomed to the suffering  
of the martyrs  
and the news that my brothers and sisters are  
enduring persecution,-  
but may their lives and witness ever move me to  
conversion  
and to the greatest loyalty to the kingdom.  
May I accept my church with an ever growing love  
and with Christian realism.  
May I not reject it for its faults,  
but feel myself committed to renew it,  
and help it to be what you, Lord, want it to be.  
May I fear not death, but infidelity.



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# THE BIBLICAL JUBILEE AND THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE

*An Invitation to Personal, Ecclesial,  
and Social Transformation*

**Ross Kinsler and  
Gloria Kinsler**

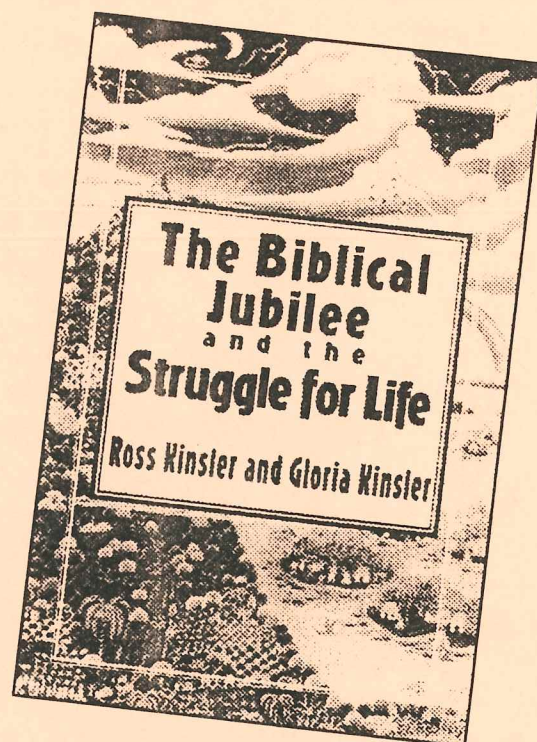
*AN ESSENTIAL GUIDE FOR CHRISTIANS ON HOW TO ACHIEVE PERSONAL,  
ECCLESIAL, AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE YEAR OF JUBILEE.*

The biblical Jubilee—a holistic vision of peace, justice, and the integrity of creation—connects the Exodus and the Old Testament prophetic tradition with the message and mission of Jesus. Intended for every fifty years, the year of Jubilee calls for canceling debts, giving rest to the land, restoring justice to the poor, and returning in faith to the promises of God.

Increasingly the relevance of Jubilee has been reclaimed by a wide variety of church organizations, including the Vatican and the World Council of Churches, as well as by groups especially committed to a religious program of social transformation. This book serves as an essential primer and reference for such efforts. It shows Christians how to connect their faith to such urgent challenges as the destruction of the biosphere, the crushing burden of global debt, and the spreading plague of consumerism.

With the approach of a new millennium the biblical Jubilee helps us understand the problems we face and provides a spiritual foundation for commitment and action.

Ross Kinsler and Gloria Kinsler, co-workers in mission for the Presbyterian church, have spent the past twenty-five years as theological educators in Central America. Currently they teach at the Latin American Biblical Seminary in San José, Costa Rica.

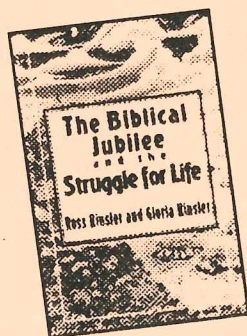


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## THE BIBLICAL JUBILEE AND THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE

"This book promises to be the essential resource for all who are organizing around the coming Jubilee."

Robert Ellsberg, Orbis Books

"This book is the ideal resource for churches to nurture commitment and creativity by promoting 'Jubilee literacy,' a spirituality of forgiveness and reparation, and practical disciplines for individuals, households, and congregations. But the Kinslers are clear that with this hope for renewal also comes a warning: any theology that refuses to reckon with the realities of the increasingly unequal distribution of wealth and power in the human family today is both cruel and irrelevant. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Kinslers for their faithful labor, which has borne fruit for all of us in this volume."

Ched Myers

"The long awaited study book by Ross and Gloria Kinsler is an extremely valuable resource. In this time of 'globalization' by major economic and political powers, it's good to inform and support ourselves as people of faith with some biblical, social 'globalization.'"

Joan Elbert, Kairos/USA

"This is a very timely book! People are uncertain about the 21st century and are searching for new orientation. The biblical Sabbath and Jubilee tradition does provide essential directions for the process of personal and ecclesial transformation. Ross and Gloria Kinsler open up the richness of this tradition. Their book offers invaluable help for individual readers and groups who want to respond creatively to the challenge of a new century."

Konrad Raiser, WCC

"With graceful and joyful courage, the Kinslers challenge their readers to join them in a personal and corporate life of responsible discipleship. The book stands as a trumpet call to make the new millennium a Jubilee of 'liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants.'"

Sharon Ringe

"If the twentieth century was the century of politics, the twenty-first will be the century of economics. Christians are going to have to learn about economics in order to reverse a situation in which the richest 20% receive 82.7% of the world's income while the poor are becoming abysmally poorer. The Kinslers, anticipating that new agenda, have produced a thoughtful and urgent manifesto for the recovery of the Biblical Jubilee as a model for the dramatic changes required of us if we are to rise to this challenge."

Walter Wink

"As a growing number of Christians around the world explore the biblical meaning of Jubilee, they are finding new resources and motivation for the ongoing struggle for social transformation. This book offers us in North America an opportunity to have a similar experience. In it, Ross and Gloria Kinsler bring together the resources of biblical scholarship and their own rich insights and experience to deepen our understanding of our faith and challenge us to action. It will prove especially valuable as a guide to small groups interested in this theme."

Richard Shaull